PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of:

Daniel R. Palmer

Docket No.: 2000007

Warren G. Branch III Gary B. Bertram

Serial No.:

09/688,002

Art Unit: 2881

Filed: October 14, 2000

Examiner: David A. Vanore

For:

Corona Wire Tensioning Mechanism

Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

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BRIEF FOR APPELLANT

Sir:

This brief is filed in support of the Notice of Appeal filed on September 3, 2004. This brief is in support of an appeal from the final action of the Primary Examiner mailed June 3, 2004, and the subsequent Advisory Action and Supplement to the Advisory mailed September 22, 2004.

1. THE REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Eastman Kodak Company.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Appellant believes there are no related interferences or appeals that will have any bearing on this appeal.

III. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application, and claims 9-22 have been withdrawn from further consideration due to a restriction requirement, which was timely traversed. Claims 1, and 3-8 stand rejected. The rejection against claim 2 has been withdrawn per the advisory action. Appeal is taken on the rejected claims 1, and 3-8.

IV. STATUS OF THE AMENDMENTS

Claim 3 and 6 have been amended once to put them in independent form. These changes did not include any new matter, and in no way changed the scope of the claims. Claim 1 has been amended once to incorporate the alignment groove as disclosed in the drawings. Claim 7 has been amended once to put it in independent form, and to clarify that by "v-shaped" block Appellants meant that the legs formed an acute angle relative to each other. All amendments were entered by the Examiner. The appealed claims are included in Appendix A of this brief.

V. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION AND ITS ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENT

This invention discloses a means for spring loading the wire 6 without actually attaching the spring 40 to the wire 6. This minimizes the risk of arcing from the spring 40 to the wire 6 and to other components within the machine. This improvement also minimizes side loads on the wire 6 by distributing the force on the attachment means 3, such as a lug, all the way around the attachment means 3. The wire tensioning mechanism 2 is for tensioning a wire 6 in a machine 4. The wire 6 has an end one (not shown) and an end two 7 (see figures 2-3) and is fixed to the machine 4 at end one, and has a means for

S/N 09/688,002 Filing Date 10/14/2000

attachment 3 on end two 7. The wire tensioning mechanism 2 comprises a slide block 30, and a spring 40.

The slide block 30 is slidably mounted to the machine 4 at end two 7 of the wire, such that the slide block 30 slides parallel to the wire 6. The slide block 30 has a slot 35 which is wider than the wire 6 but narrower than the means for attachment 3, such that when the slide block 30 is mounted on the machine 4, the wire end two 7 can be slid into the slot 35 such that pulling the slide block 30 in the direction away from the wire 6 forces the means for attachment 3 against the slot 35, but does not allow the means for attachment 3 to pass through. The slot 35 is lined up with the wire 6 such that when the wire 6 is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment 3. In a preferred embodiment, the means for attachment 3 is a lug crimped on the wire end two 7.

In order to align the wire 6 to the desired direction, the machine 4 may have grooves 8 where the wire must lay. The slide block 30 may be slightly offset from the groove 8 in order to register the wire 6 against the groove 8 such that the wire 6 doesn't move.

The spring 40 is mounted between the machine 4 and the slide block 30 such that the spring 40 exerts a force on the slide block 30 in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire 6 exerts on the slide block 30. The force of the spring 40 can cause the slide block 30 to slide, and the spring 40 is chosen such that the force exerted on the slide block 30 causes the wire 6 to achieve the desired tension. Thus the spring 40 forces the slide block 30 to pull on the wire 6.

The wire tensioning mechanism 2 may further comprises a holder 10 which is mounted to the machine 4. Thus all of these design elements could be combined into a holder mechanism, which then is mounted to the machine as one unit, making installation easier. Thus the slide block 30 is slidably mounted to the holder 10, which is then mounted to the machine. Alternatively a slide pin 20 may be mounted directly to the machine 4, wherein the slide block 30 is slidably mounted to the machine 4 on the slide pin 20 (see Fig-1)

S/N 09/688,002 Filing Date 10/14/2000

When a holder 10 is incorporated, the spring 40 may be mounted between the machine 4 and the slide block 30 (this configuration not shown) or between the holder 10 and the slide block 30 (see Figures 2-4). The preferred embodiment is to have the spring 40 mounted between the slide block 30 and the holder 10.

In a further preferred embodiment, the slide block 30 is v-shaped, and the v-shaped slide block 30 comprises a leg one 34 and a leg two 32 (this is best seen in Fig-3). Slide block leg one 34 is slidably mounted to the machine 4, and leg two 32 is on the same side of leg one 34 as the wire 6 such that leg two 32 angles away from the wire 6. Thus the "v" is laying on one of its sides (leg one 34), and the slot 35 is in the other side of the "v" (leg two 32). The portion of the slide block 30 with the slot 35 angles away from the wire 6 in order to better keep the wire 6 from slipping out of the slot 35.

VI. ISSUES ON APPEAL

A) The non-anticipation of claims 1, and 3-8 by Clark.

VII. THE A	THE ART RELIED ON BY THE EXAMINER		
Clark	USP 3,908,127	9/23/1975	

VIII. GROUPING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, and 3-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Clark. Appellant's have argued claims 1, 3, 6, and 7 separately below, and as such request that these claims be considered individually.

IX.APELLANT'S ARGUMENTS

THE NON-ANTICIPATION OF CLAIMS 1, and 3-8 BY CLARK

Appellants respectfully submit that claim 1, and by dependency claims 4, 5, and 8, are not anticipated by Clark. Appellants further respectfully submit that for the following reasons, claims 3 and 6, and 7 are not anticipated by Clark.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference" [MPEP 2131 quoting Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Appellants had respectfully requested the Examiner show where Clark discloses a groove for alignment at the same end as the slot for holding the wire. In the Advisory Action the Examiner states that this limitation is not present in the Appellants' claims. Claim 1, and by dependency claims 2, 4, 5, and 8, include the limitation "said wire is fixed to the machine at end one and has a means for attachment on end two", and then further "a groove on the machine, wherein said end two of the wire is laid in said groove to align the wire to the desired position". This is supported by Figures 1 and 2, where the groove is item 8. Thus end two of the wire is laid in the alignment groove, which is the same end two which is "slid into said slot" and thus Appellant discloses 'a groove for alignment at the same end [of the wire] as the slot for holding the wire.' Clark has no such limitation. The groove 47 of Clark, which the Examiner calls out as anticipating this limitation, would be located on the Appellant's end one, the end which is fixed to the machine. The other groove which the Examiner calls out from Clark, 29, is the slot to hold the wire. Appellants clearly have a slot for holding the wire, and a separate "groove to align the wire to the desired position", both of which are at end two of the wire. Therefore, since Clark does not disclose this limitation, appellant requests reversal of the Examiner regarding rejection of claims 1, and 3-8.

Claim 3 has the limitation "a slide pin which is mounted to the machine, wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to the machine on said slide pin". The Examiner does not state where Clark shows a slide pin mounted to the machine, or the slide block slidably mounted on the slide pin. What the Examiner is calling the slide pin (28) is integral with what the Examiner is calling the slide block (22), and then the slide block with the protrusion (28) is slidably mounted on the machine. The slide block (22) of Clark is not mounted TO the slide pin, it is one unit, but rather this slide block with protrusion unit is mounted BY the protrusion (28) to the holder. Thus, because Clark does not disclose a slide pin mounted to the machine with a slide block slidably mounted on the slide pin, appellant requests reversal of the Examiner regarding rejection of claim 3.

Claim 6 has the limitation "a slide pin which is mounted to said holder, and wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder on said slide pin". Appellants have distinguished between being 'mounted' and being 'slidably mounted', because if everything was slidably mounted to each other, the invention would not function for its intended purpose. Thus when Appellants state "a slide pin which is mounted to said holder" Appellants **do not** mean 'a slide pin which is *slidably* mounted to said holder. What the Examiner is calling a slide pin (28) in Clark, is slidably mounted to what the Examiner is calling the holder (21). If then the slide block was slidably mounted on the slide pin (as the limitation in claim 6 requires), the resulting apparatus would not function for its intended purpose. Thus, because Clark does not disclose a slide pin mounted to the holder, or the slide block slidably mounted on the slide pin, appellants request reversal of the Examiner regarding rejection of claim 6.

Claim 7 has the limitation "slide block is v-shaped, and wherein said v-shaped slide block comprises a leg one and a leg two, wherein said slide block leg one is slidably mounted to the machine" and "wherein said slot [to slide the wire into] is in said leg two". Claim 7 then further limits this to "wherein said leg one and said leg two form an acute angle". This limitation distinguishes between

the L – shape of Clark's item (22) and the Appellant's V-shaped slide block. The V-shape is better to prevent the wire from sliding out. In the Advisory action, the Examiner stated that "Fig. 5 in Clark shows a first leg forming an acute angle with respect to a second leg (Note the pointed tip on Item 22 and the angle created between this item and the lower leg). " In his own words the Examiner calls this a 'pointed tip', which he then implies is a third leg (since the L-shape already is composed of 2 legs). Appellant's leg one is slidably mounted to the machine, leg two has the slot to slide the wire into, and these two legs form an acute angle with respect to each other. The leg in Figure 5 which appears mounted to the machine does not form an acute angle with the leg which has the slot for the wire. Further, Figure 4 of Clark shows that the pointed tip the Examiner refers to does not even extend to where the slot 29 is for holding the wire, and thus would not aid in holding the wire in the slot. Appellants respectfully submit the Examiner has not shown where Clark discloses "wherein said leg one and said leg two form an acute angle", wherein 'leg one' and 'leg two' are defined as in Therefore, since Clark does not disclose this limitation, appellant requests reversal of the Examiner regarding rejection of claim 7.

IX. SUMMARY

Appellant's claimed corona wire tensioning mechanism (claims 1-8) is distinct and patentably defined over the cited reference as applied by the Examiner. Appellant requests reversal of the final rejection in its entirety.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Bowen, Esq. Registration No. 42,352

Attorney for Appellants

TABLE OF CONTENTS FOR APPENDICIES

APPENDIX A Amended	claims on Appeal
APPENDIX BPatent application 09/688,00	2 as originally filed
APPENDIX CAdvisory Action mailed S	September 22, 2004
APPENDIX DResponse	to final office action
APPENDIX E	.Final Office Action
APPENDIX FReference relied upo	n by the Examiner

APPENDIX A

1. (once amended) A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two, in a machine, wherein said wire is fixed to the machine at end one and has a means for attachment on end two, comprising:

a groove on the machine, wherein said end two of the wire is laid in said groove to align the wire to a desired position;

a slide block which is slidably mounted to the machine at the wire end two such that said slide block slides parallel to the wire, having a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment such that when said slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into said slot such that pulling said slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through; and

a spring which is mounted between the machine and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide, and wherein said spring is chosen such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension.

3. (once amended) A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two, in a machine, wherein said wire is fixed to the machine at end one and has a means for attachment on end two, comprising:

a slide block which is slidably mounted to the machine at the wire end two such that said slide block slides parallel to the wire, having a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment such that when said slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into said slot such that pulling said slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through, and wherein said slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment;

a spring which is mounted between the machine and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide, and wherein said spring is chosen such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension; and,

a slide pin which is mounted to the machine, wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to the machine on said slide pin.

- 4. (original) The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising a holder, wherein said holder is mounted to the machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder.
- 5. (original) The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising a holder wherein said holder is mounted to the machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder, and said spring is mounted between said slide block and said holder.
- 6. (once amended) A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two, in a machine, wherein said wire is fixed to the machine at end one and has a means for attachment on end two, comprising:

a slide block which is slidably mounted to the machine at the wire end two such that said slide block slides parallel to the wire, having a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment such that when said slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into said slot such that pulling said slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through, and wherein said slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment:

a spring which is mounted between the machine and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide, and wherein said spring is chosen

such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension:

a holder, wherein said holder is mounted to the machine; and,

a slide pin which is mounted to said holder, and wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder on said slide pin.

7. (once amended) A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two, in a machine, wherein said wire is fixed to the machine at end one and has a means for attachment on end two, comprising:

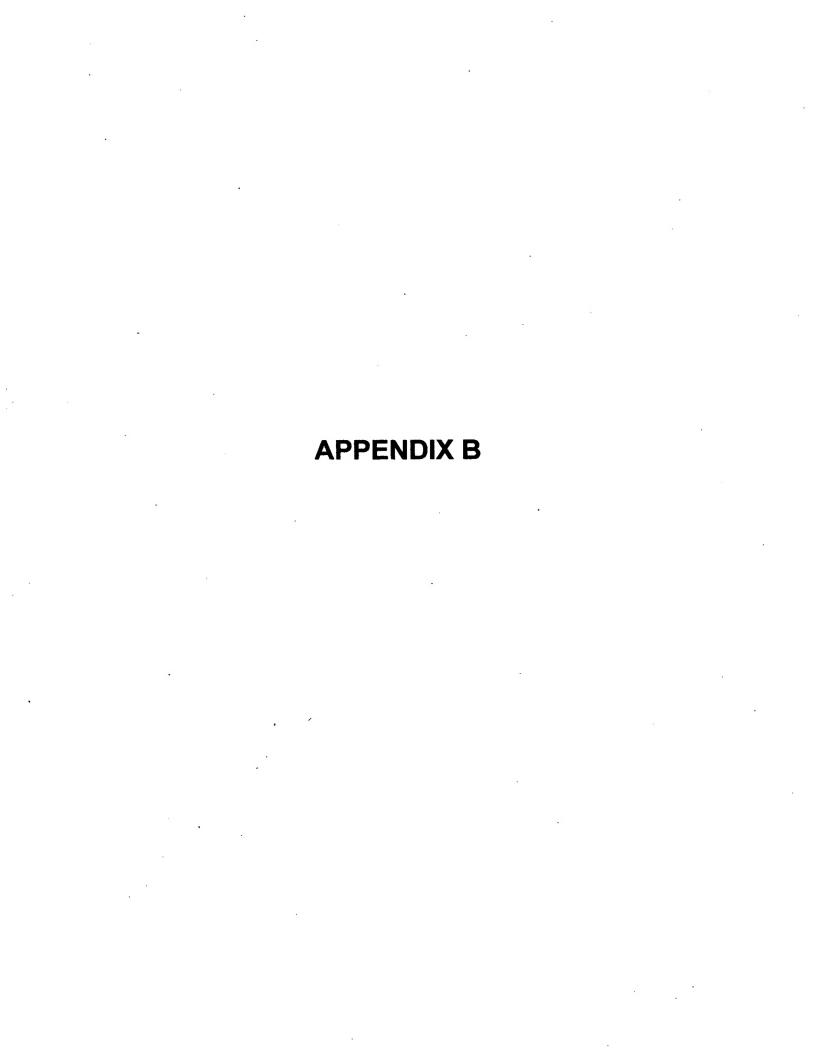
a slide block which is slidably mounted to the machine at the wire end two such that said slide block slides parallel to the wire, having a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment such that when said slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into said slot such that pulling said slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through, and wherein said slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment;

a spring which is mounted between the machine and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide, and wherein said spring is chosen such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension; and,

wherein said slide block is v-shaped, and wherein said v-shaped slide block comprises a leg one and a leg two, wherein said slide block leg one is slidably mounted to the machine, and wherein said leg two is on the same side of said leg one as the wire such that said leg two angles away from the wire, wherein said slot is in said leg two;

wherein said leg one and said leg two form an acute angle.

8. (original) The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein said spring is a compression spring.



Docket No.2000007

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES PATENT

CORONA WIRE TENSIONING MECHANISM

INVENTORS: Daniel R. Palmer
Warren G. Branch, III
Gary B. Bertram

DATE: October 13, 2000

CORONA WIRE TENSIONING MECHANISM

BACKGROUND

The present invention is in the field of electrophotographic printers and copiers. More specifically this invention relates to the corona charging device used to charge the surface of a photoconductor.

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The corona charging device usually contains one or more small diameter (e.g. .003 inch diameter) corona wires. It is important that these wires be properly tensioned. Excessive tension can result in wire breakage, whereas insufficient tension can result in wire vibration and subsequent non-uniform charging of the photoconductor. Additionally, corona wires have a finite life and must be replaced in the field.

It is common practice to spring load corona wires to achieve the proper tension. One method used to do this is to crimp lugs onto the ends of the wires, secure one end of the wires, and then insert the lugs on the other end through the hook of an extension spring. Multiple wires may then be tensioned by mounting these springs on a tensioner block and rotating and securing the tensioner block at the desired tension. One drawback of this method is that it is difficult to maintain engagement between the lugs and the springs while rotating and securing the tension block. Another drawback is that because the spring and the corona wire are in direct contact in this method, the spring is at the same voltage as the wire, and there is a risk of arcing by the spring. One further problem with this method is that the force of the spring hooks can impart side loads on the lugs, which in turn can impose undue stress on the wires.

A corona wire tensioning mechanism is desired which would allow individual replacement of the corona wires, which would not impart side loads on the wires, and which would easily maintain engagement between the wire and the tensioning mechanism and yet be isolated from the spring so as to minimize the danger of arcing by the spring.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two in a machine, wherein the wire has a means for attachment on end two and is fixed to the machine at end one, comprises a slide block, and a spring.

The slide block is slidably mounted to the machine at end two of the wire, such that the slide block slides parallel to the wire. The slide block has a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment, such that when the slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into the slot such that pulling the slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through. The slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1 is an isometric view of a wire tensioning device according to an aspect of the invention.

FIGURE 2 is an isometric view of a wire tensioning device according to a further aspect of the invention.

FIGURE 3 is a side view of a wire tensioning device according to an aspect of the invention.

25 FIGURE 4 is a top view of a wire tensioning device, according to an aspect of the invention.

FIGURE 5 is a top view of a continuous corona wire configuration with a wire tensioning device according to an aspect of the invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

This invention discloses a means for spring loading the wire 6 without actually attaching the spring 40 to the wire 6. This minimizes the risk of arcing from the spring 40 to the wire 6 and to other components within the machine. This improvement also minimizes side loads on the wire 6 by distributing the force on the attachment means 3, such as a lug, all the way around the attachment means 3.

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Various aspects of the invention are presented in Figures 1-5 which are not drawn to scale and in which like components are numbered alike. Referring now to Figure 1 according to an aspect of the invention, a wire tensioning mechanism 2 for tensioning a wire 6 having an end one (not shown) and an end two 7 (see figures 2-3) in a machine 4 wherein the wire 6 has a means for attachment 3 on end two 7 and is fixed to the machine 4 at end one, comprises a slide block 30, and a spring 40.

The slide block 30 is slidably mounted to the machine 4 at end two 7 of the wire, such that the slide block 30 slides parallel to the wire 6. The slide block 30 has a slot 35 which is wider than the wire 6 but narrower than the means for attachment 3, such that when the slide block 30 is mounted on the machine 4, the wire end two 7 can be slid into the slot 35 such that pulling the slide block 30 in the direction away from the wire 6 forces the means for attachment 3 against the slot 35, but does not allow the means for attachment 3 to pass through. The slot 35 is lined up with the wire 6 such that when the wire 6 is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment 3. In a preferred embodiment, the means for attachment 3 is a lug crimped on the wire end two 7.

In order to align the wire 6 to the desired direction, the machine 4 will often have grooves 8 where the wire must lay. In this case, the slide block 30 is preferably slightly offset from the groove 8 in order to register the wire 6 against the groove 8 such that the wire 6 doesn't move.

The spring 40 is mounted between the machine 4 and the slide block 30 such that the spring 40 exerts a force on the slide block 30 in the opposite direction of

the force which the tensioned wire 6 exerts on the slide block 30. The force of the spring 40 can cause the slide block 30 to slide, and the spring 40 is chosen such that the force exerted on the slide block 30 causes the wire 6 to achieve the desired tension. Thus the spring 40 forces the slide block 30 to pull on the wire 6.

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Referring now to Figures 2-4, in a preferred embodiment of the invention, the wire tensioning mechanism 2 further comprises a holder 10 which is mounted to the machine 4. In this embodiment, the slide block 30 is slidably mounted to the holder 10. A preferred means of slidably mounting the slide block 30 to the holder 10 is to use a slide pin 20, wherein the slide pin 20 is mounted to the holder 10. A slide pin 20 may be mounted directly to the machine 4, wherein the slide block 30 is slidably mounted to the machine 4 on the slide pin 20 (this configuration is not shown).

When a holder 10 is incorporated, the spring 40 may be mounted between the machine 4 and the slide block 30, or between the holder 10 and the slide block 30 (this configuration not shown). The preferred embodiment is to have the spring 40 mounted between the slide block 30 and the holder 10.

In a further preferred embodiment, the slide block 30 is v-shaped, and the v-shaped slide block 30 comprises a leg one 34 and a leg two 32 (this is best seen in Fig-3). Slide block leg one 34 is slidably mounted to the machine 4, and leg two 32 is on the same side of leg one 34 as the wire 6 such that leg two 32 angles away from the wire 6. Thus the "v" is laying on one of its sides (leg one 34), and the slot 35 is in the other side of the "v" (leg two 32). The portion of the slide block 30 with the slot 35 angles away from the wire 6 in order to better keep the wire 6 from slipping out of the slot 35.

According to a further preferred embodiment, the spring **40** is a compression spring. Although a compression spring is preferred for space constraint reasons, a tension spring will also work.

In a typical electrophotographic machine, multiple corona wires are present.

Referring now to Figure 5, rather than have individual wires, according to a further aspect of the invention, a single continuous wire 6 may be used which would be strung in such a way as to create multiple segments. This continuous wire 6 would have an end one 5 and an end two 7, wherein end one 5 is secured against movement and end two 7 has a lug 3 crimped on. Wherein the necessary bends in the wire are achieved by wrapping the wire 6 around restraining devices 50, end two 7 is wrapped around the final restraining device 51 such that it makes an angle with the rest of the wire 6 of approximately 90°. End two 7 is then secured by a wire tensioning mechanism of the type described above. Many different types of restraining devices are acceptable; posts, pins, pulleys and grooves are all examples of restraining devices which may be used. However this invention is not limited to these specific examples, any device which acts to restrain the wire such that the wire may be bent into multiple segments may be used.

What is claimed is:

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1. A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two, in a machine, wherein said wire is fixed to the machine at end one and has a means for attachment on end two, comprising:

a slide block which is slidably mounted to the machine at the wire end two such that said slide block slides parallel to the wire, having a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment such that when said slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into said slot such that pulling said slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through, and wherein said slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment; and

a spring which is mounted between the machine and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide, and wherein said spring is chosen such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension.

- 20 2. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein said means for attachment is a lug which has been crimped on the wire.
 - 3. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising a slide pin which is mounted to the machine, wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to the machine on said slide pin.
- 4. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising a holder, wherein said holder is mounted to the machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder.
 - 5. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising a holder wherein said holder is mounted to the machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder, and said spring is mounted between said slide block and said holder.

- 6. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 further comprising: a holder, wherein said holder is mounted to the machine; and, a slide pin which is mounted to said holder, and wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder on said slide pin.
- 7. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein said slide block is v-shaped, and wherein said v-shaped slide block comprises a leg one and a leg two wherein said slide block leg one is slidably mounted to the machine, and wherein said leg two is on the same side of said leg one as the wire such that said leg two angles away from the wire, wherein said slot is in said leg two.
- 10 8. The wire tensioning mechanism of claim 1 wherein said spring is a compression spring.

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9. In a corona wire tensioning device for electrophotography, the wire having opposing ends end one and end two, and having a lug crimped on end one and end two as a means for attachment to the wires, wherein end one of the wire is secured against movement, and the end two of the wire is laid in a groove on the electrophotographic machine to align the wire to the desired position, and spring loaded to the appropriate tension, the improvement comprising:

a holder which is mounted to the machine at the position of the grooves;

a slide pin which is mounted to said holder such that it is parallel to the wire; a v-shaped slide block comprising a leg one and a leg two wherein said slide block leg one is slidably mounted to said holder on said slide pin such that said slide block leg one is free to slide on said slide pin in the direction parallel to the wire, and such that said leg one is parallel to said slide pin, and wherein said leg two is on the same side of said holder as the wire such that said leg two angles away from the wire, wherein said leg two has a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the lug such that when said slide block is mounted on said holder, the wire end two having the lug crimped on can be slid into said slot such that pulling on the wire in the direction away from said slide block forces the lug into the back of said slot, but does not allow the lug to pass through, and wherein said slot is slightly offset from the groove such that when the wire is in tension, the wire is registered against the groove; and.

a spring having an end one and an end two, wherein said spring is mounted between said holder and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide along said slide pin, and wherein said spring is chosen such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension.

- 10. In the corona wire tensioning device for electrophotography of claim 9 wherein said spring is a compression spring.
- 11. A corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for an electrophotographic machine comprising:

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a single continuous wire having an end one and an end two, wherein end one is secured against movement and end two has a lug crimped on, and wherein said wire is strung in such a way as to create multiple segments; restraining devices which are mounted to the machine such that the necessary bends in said wire are achieved by wrapping said wire around said restraining devices;

a final restraining device, such that end two is wrapped around said final restraining device such that it makes approximately a 90° angle with the rest of said wire;

a slide block which is slidably mounted to the machine such that said slide block slides towards said final restraining device, having a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment such that when said slide block is mounted on said holder, the wire end having the means for attachment crimped on can be slid into said slot such that pulling on the wire in the direction away from the slide block forces the means for attachment into the back of the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through, and wherein said slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment; and

a spring having an end one and an end two, wherein said spring is mounted between the machine and said slide block such that said spring exerts a force on said slide block in the opposite direction of the force which the tensioned wire exerts on said slide block, such that the force of said spring can cause said slide block to slide, and wherein said spring is chosen such that the force exerted on said slide block causes the wire to achieve the desired tension.

- 12. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein said restraining devices are pins.
 - 13. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein said restraining devices are pulleys.

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- 14. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein said restraining devices are posts.
- 15. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the
 electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein said restraining devices are grooves.
 - 16. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein said means for attachment is a lug which has been crimped on the wire.
- 17. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11 wherein said slide block is slidably mounted on a slide pin, which is mounted to the machine.
 - 18. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein a holder is mounted to the machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder.
 - 19. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein a holder is mounted to the machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder, and said spring is mounted between said slide block and said holder.
- 30 20. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein a holder is mounted to the

machine, and said slide block is slidably mounted on a slide pin which is mounted to said holder.

- 21. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein said slide block is v-shaped, and wherein said v-shaped slide block comprises a leg one and a leg two wherein said slide block leg one is slidably mounted to the machine such that said slide block leg one is free to slide in the direction parallel to the wire, and wherein said leg two is on the same side of said leg one as the wire such that said leg two angles away from the wire, wherein said slot is in said leg two.
- 22. The corona wire configuration with a tensioning mechanism for the electrophotographic machine of claim 11, wherein the spring is a compression spring.

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ABSTRACT

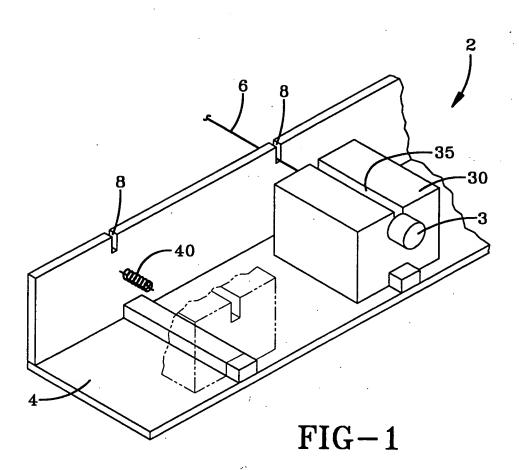
A wire tensioning mechanism for tensioning a wire having an end one and an end two in a machine in which the wire has a means for attachment on end two and is fixed to the machine at end one, comprises a slide block, and a spring.

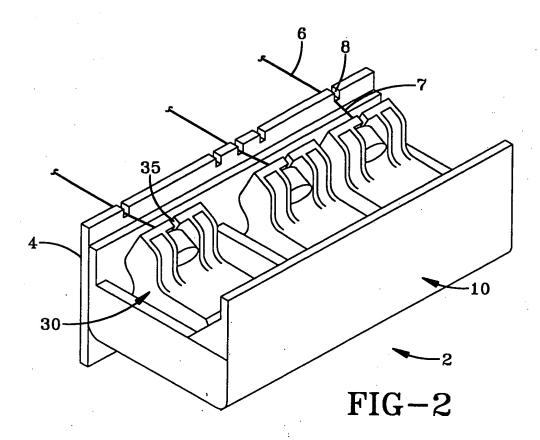
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The slide block is slidably mounted to the machine at end two of the wire, such that the slide block slides parallel to the wire. The slide block has a slot which is wider than the wire but narrower than the means for attachment, such that when the slide block is mounted on the machine, the wire end two can be slid into the slot such that pulling the slide block in the direction away from the wire forces the means for attachment against the slot, but does not allow the means for attachment to pass through. The slot is lined up with the wire such that when the wire is in tension, there are no side loads on the means for attachment.





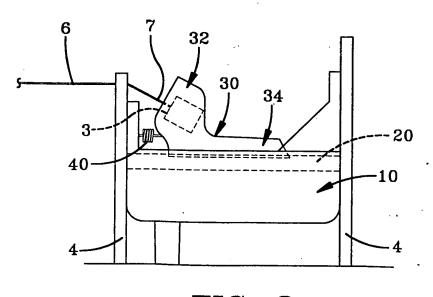
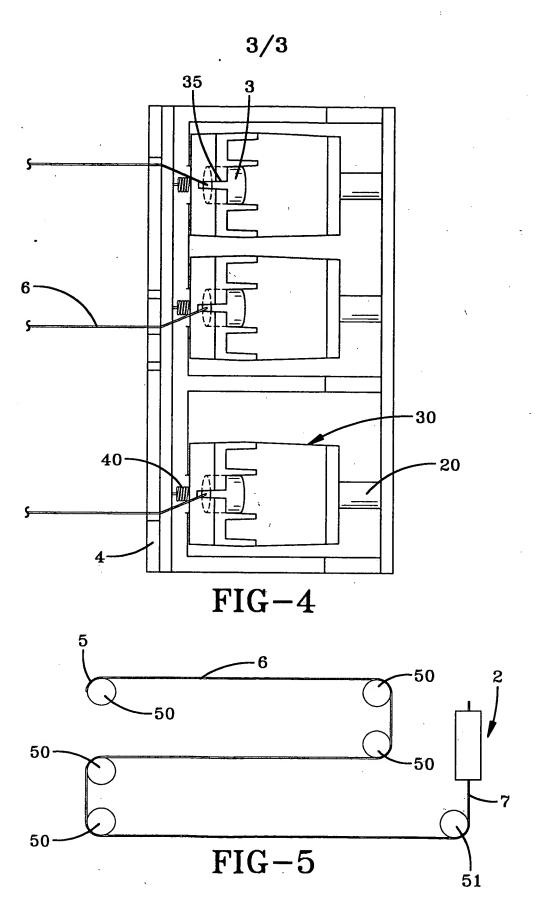


FIG-3



APPENDIX C



United States Parent and Trademark Office



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/688,002	10/14/2000	Daniel R. Palmer	2000007	9193
75	90 09/22/2004		EXAM	INER
Kathleen K Bo			VANORE,	DAVID A
Cuyahoga Falls,	OH 44223		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2881 .	:
			DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004	1

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action

Application No.	Applicant(s)	Applicant(s)	
09/688,002	PALMER ET AL.		
Examiner	Art Unit		
David A Vanore	2881		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

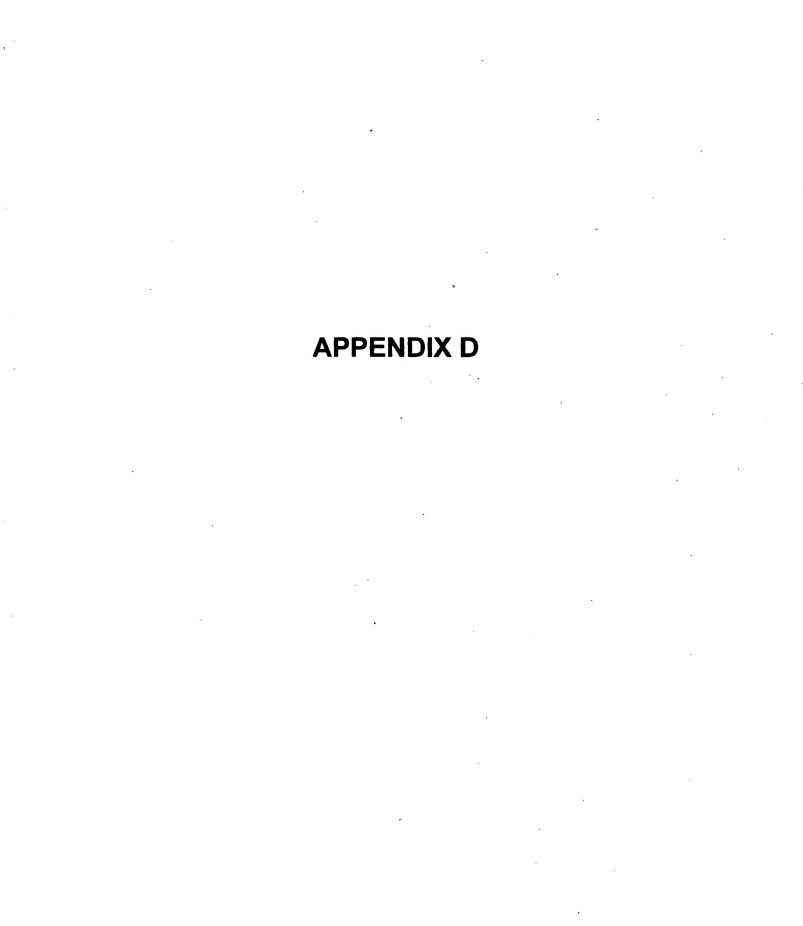
THE REPLY FILED September 2, 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

=xammation (102) in compliance with 57 of 11114.	
PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]	
a) The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection. b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).	
Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	in
1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on <u>September 3, 2004</u> . Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.	
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:	
(a) They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);	
(b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);	
(c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying issues for appeal; and/or	he
(d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.	
NOTE:	
3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): Claim 2.	
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendme canceling the non-allowable claim(s).	nt
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.	;
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.	
7.⊠ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.	•
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:	
Claim(s) allowed:	
Claim(s) objected to: 2.	
Claim(s) rejected: <u>1 and 3-8</u> .	
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration:	
8. The drawing correction filed on is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.	
9 Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s)	
10. Other:	
\cdot	

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Applicant's remarks regarding claim 1 are not persuasive. Applicant points out that Clark does not teach "groove for alignment at the same end as the slot for holding the wire." This limitation is not present in the claims. Clark teaches the groove required in Claim 1 as pointed out in the previous Office action where groove 29 has therein a wire laid for alignment (Note Page 3 of the Final Rejection). Regarding Applicant's remarks concerning claims 3 and 6, if the slide block is mounted by the slide pin, it is necessarily mounted to the slide pin. Regarding applicant's arguments regarding claim 7, Fig. 5 in Clark shows a first leg forming an acute angle with respect to a second leg (Note the pointed tip on Item 22 and the angle created between this Item and the lower leg).

SUPERIOR OF PATENT EXAMINE

Hara the GENTER 2800





I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

September 2, 2004	
Date of Deposit	
Kathleen K. Bowen	
Name of Applicant, Assignee, or	
Registered Representative	
leto l Born	-
Signature /	
September 2, 2004	
Date of Signature	

Attorney Docket No. 2000-007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re	Application of:)
Warr	el R. Palmer, en G. Branch III, and B. Bertram)))
Seria	il No. 09/688,002) Examiner: <u>David A. Vanore</u>
	Date: October 14, 2000) Group Art Unit No. 2881
For	Corona Wire Tensioning Mechanism)))

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the office communication mailed on June 3, 2004;

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application, and claims 9-22 have been withdrawn from further consideration due to a restriction requirement, which was timely traversed. Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by US Patent 3,908,127, by Clark. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and by dependency claims 2, 4, 5, and 8, are not anticipated by Clark. Applicants further respectfully submit that for the following reasons, claims 3 and 6, and 7 are not anticipated by Clark. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and further examination of claims 1-8.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference" [MPEP 2131 quoting Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Claim 1, and by dependency claims 2, 4, 5, and 8, include the limitation "a groove on the machine, wherein said end two of the wire is laid in said groove to align the wire to the desired position". This is supported by Figures 1 and 2, where the groove is item 8. Clark has no such limitation. The groove 47 of Clark, which the Examiner calls out as anticipating this limitation, would be located on the Applicant's end one. The other groove which the Examiner calls out from Clark, 29, is the slot to hold the wire. Applicants clearly have a slot for attaching the wire, and a separate "groove to align the wire to the desired position", both of which are at end two of the wire. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner show where Clark discloses a groove for alignment at the same end as the slot for holding the wire. In the absence of this, applicants submit that Claim 1, and by dependency claims 2, 4, 5, and 8 are not anticipated by Clark, and request this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 2 further includes the limitation that "said means for attachment is a lug which has been crimped on the wire." The examiner has not shown where Clark discloses this limitation. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner show

where Clark discloses the "means for attachment is a lug which has been crimped on the wire" so that Applicant's may adequately respond. In the absence of this, applicants submit that Claim 2 is not anticipated by Clark, and request this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 3 is rewritten in independent form incorporating all of the limitations of claim 1, which was previously incorporated by reference. Therefore, claim 3 is in the same form as originally presented. Claim 3 has the limitation "a slide pin which is mounted to the machine, wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to the machine on said slide pin". The Examiner does not state where Clark shows a slide pin mounted to the machine, or the slide block slidably mounted on the slide pin. What the Examiner is calling the slide pin (28) is mounted to what the Examiner is calling the slide block (22), and then the slide block/pin combination is slidably mounted on the machine. The slide block (22) of Clark is not mounted TO the slide pin, but rather is mounted BY the slide pin to the holder – the slide pin (28) and the slide block(22) of Clark are one unit Thus, because Clark does not disclose a slide pin mounted to the machine, or the slide block slidably mounted on the slide pin, Claim 3 is not anticipated by Clark. Applicants respectfully submit that rejection of claim 3 on this basis is in error, and request that the rejection on this basis be withdrawn.

Claim 6 is rewritten in independent form incorporating all of the limitations of claim 1, which was previously incorporated by reference. Therefore, claim 6 is in the same form as originally presented. Claim 6 has the limitation "a slide pin which is mounted to said holder, and wherein said slide block is slidably mounted to said holder on said slide pin". The Examiner does not state where Clark shows a slide pin mounted to the holder, or the slide block slidably mounted on the slide pin. In fact the examiner states "the slide pins being mounted on the slide block (22)." Applicants respectfully submit that rejection of claim 6 on this basis is in error, and request that the rejection on this basis be withdrawn.

Claim 7 has the limitation "wherein said leg one and said leg two form an acute angle". This limitation distinguishes between the L – shape of Clark's item

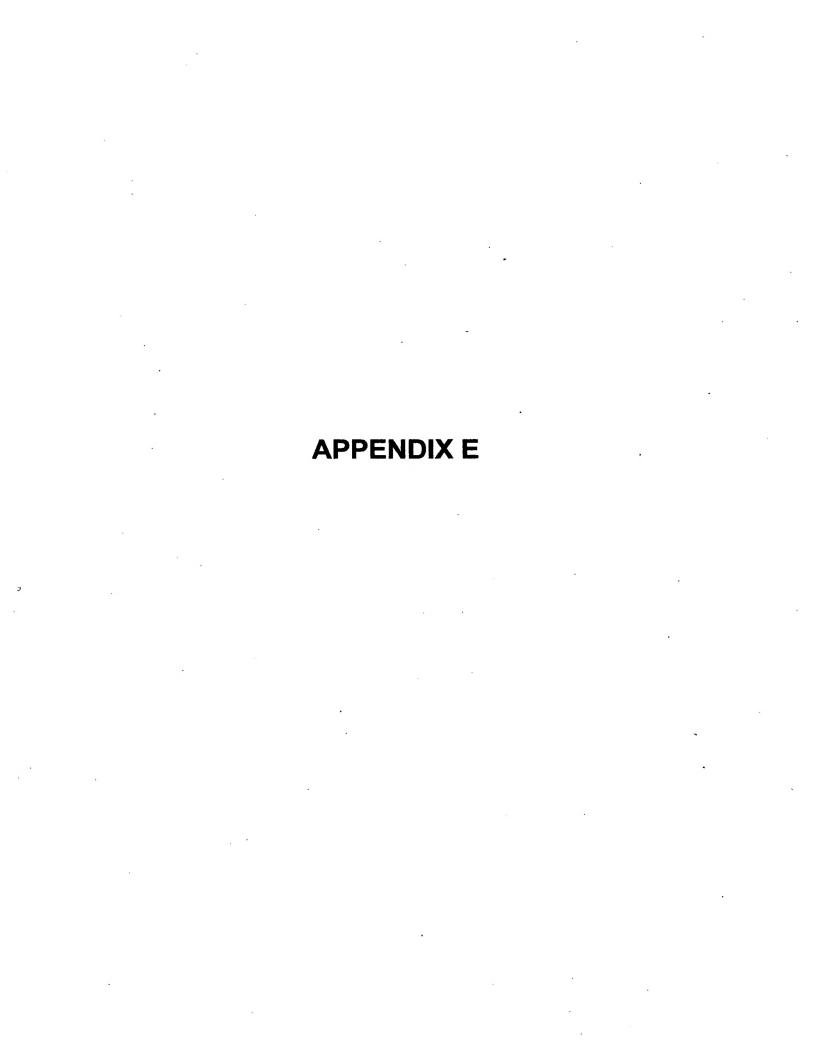
S/N 09/688,002 Filing Date 10/14/2000

(22) and the applicant's V-shaped slide block. The V-shape is better to prevent the wire from sliding out. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner show where Clark discloses "wherein said leg one and said leg two form an acute angle". In the absence of such, applicants submit that claim 7 is not anticipated by Clark, and request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-8 are allowable and request that the rejections against them be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Bowen, Esq. Registration No. 42,352 Attorney for Applicants





United States . TENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/688,002	10/14/2000	Daniel R. Palmer	2000007	2000007 9193	
75	90 06/03/2004		EXAM	INER	
Kathleen K Bowen 311 Hillbrook Dr			VANORE,	DAVID A	
Cuyahoga Falls,			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2881		
			DATE MAILED: 06/03/2004	i	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

		Applicatio	n No.	Applicant(s)	
	,	09/688,002	· 2	PALMER ET AL.	a k
Office Action	Summary	Examiner		Art Unit	
		David A Va	nore	2881	
The MAILING DAT Period for Reply	E of this communication a	appears on the	cover sheet with the c	correspondence addre	ss
A SHORTENED STATUTHE MAILING DATE OF Extensions of time may be availated after SIX (6) MONTHS from the If the period for reply specified a If NO period for reply is specified. Failure to reply within the set or	THIS COMMUNICATIOn the under the provisions of 37 CFR mailing date of this communication. sove is less than thirty (30) days, a above, the maximum statutory per extended period for reply will, by stater than three months after the maximum status of the status of t	N. 1.136(a). In no ever reply within the statu iod will apply and will atute, cause the appli	nt, however, may a reply be tin tory minimum of thirty (30) day expire SIX (6) MONTHS from cation to become ABANDONE	nely filed rs will be considered timely. I the mailing date of this comm D (35 U.S.C. § 133).	unication.
Status	•		•	•	
	` '	This action is no wance except	for formal matters, pr		ents is
Disposition of Claims					
4)	aim(s) is/are without are allowed. rejected. are objected to.	drawn from cor			
Application Papers	•				•
10) The drawing(s) file Applicant may not re	quest that any objection to g sheet(s) including the cor	accepted or b) the drawing(s) b rrection is require	e held in abeyance. Seed if the drawing(s) is of	ee 37 CFR 1.85(a). ojected to. See 37 CFR	
Priority under 35 U.S.C. §	119				
 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. 					
Attachment(s) 1) Notice of References Cited (2) Notice of Draftsperson's Pat 3) Information Disclosure State Paper No(s)/Mail Date	ent Drawing Review (PTO-948) ment(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SE) 3/08)	4) Interview Summar Paper No(s)/Mail [5) Notice of Informal 6) Other:		52)

Application/Control Number: 09/688,002

Art Unit: 2881

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed April 5, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues with respect to claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 8 that the Clark reference fails to teach the limitations of claim 1 further comprising a groove on the machine.

Clark has two grooves (47 and 29), which align the wire.

Applicant argues with respect to claim 3 that the examiner has failed to state where Clark shows a slide pin mounted to the machine wherein the slide block is slidably mounted to the machine on the slide pin. As pointed out in the previous Office action, Item 22 is the moveable member, sliding parallel to the wire in grooves 25a on slide pins 28 which couple the sliding member to the machine via fixed member 21. Clark teaches all the required limitations as recited in claim 3.

Applicant has argued that the examiner has failed to point out where Clark shows a slide pin mounted to a holder. The examiner has clarified the rejection below. Fig. 4 of Clark clearly shows that the slide pin (28) is mounted to the holder (21).

Applicant has argued with respect to claim 7 that the newly added limitation distinguishes claim 7 from the prior art of Clark. Turning to Fig. 3 of the applicant's drawings, leg one and leg two in the applicant's device form a right angle and therefore do not form an acute angle. Clark anticipates claim 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Clark.

Regarding claims 1-3 and 8, Clark teaches a wire tensioning device comprising a wire (11) having two ends with at least one end being mounted in a moveable fashion and at least one end mounted in a fixed fashion (Paragraph 9), a slide block (22) which slides parallel to the wire in grooves 25a on slide pin (28), and compression springs (23) mounted between the machine and slide block within grooves 25a such that the spring exerts force in the opposite direction of tension the wire exerts on the block (Col. 6) such that desired tension is kept on the wire. Wire ends are inserted into slots in the at least one slide block having a slow wider than the means for attachment, such as the knotting or crimping disclosed in Col. 6. Clark further teaches a groove on the machine (29 or 47).

Regarding claims 4-6, the device of Clark comprises a holder (21) which contains grooves (25a) and springs (23). The holder is fixed to the device, and the springs are between the holder and the slide pins (28), the slide pins being mounted to holder 21 in groove 25a such that slide block 22 may slide in grooves 25a.

Application/Control Number: 09/688,002

Art Unit: 2881

Regarding claim 7, the slide block of Clark is v-shaped, has two legs, the leg containing the wire angling away from the wire (Fig. 5).

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David A Vanore whose telephone number is (571) 272-2483. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2477. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2881

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

dav

/ JOHN R. LEE

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY COLUMN CARA

10/29/04

WAT/2881

PTO/SB/17 (10-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Interthe Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number Complete if Known TRANSMITTAL 09/688,002 Application Number 2 8 2004 10/14/2000

Filing Date or FY 2005 Palmer First Named Inventor 1/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision. David A. Vanore **Examiner Name** Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27 2881 **Art Unit** (\$) 340TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT 2000007 Attorney Docket No

FEE CALCULATION (continued) METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply) Money 3. ADDITIONAL FEES Other Check Credit card None Order arge Entity | Small Entity ✓ Deposit Account: Fee Fee Fee Description Deposit Code Code (\$) Fee Paid (\$) 501381 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath 2051 1051 130 Number Deposit 1052 50 2052 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or Heidelberg Digital LLC Account cover sheet Name 130 Non-English specification 1053 130 1053 The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply) 1812 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination 1812 2.520 Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to 1804 920 1804 ✓ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s) Examiner action Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee Requesting publication of SIR after 1805 1.840 1805 1.840* Examiner action to the above-identified deposit account. 110 2251 55 Extension for reply within first month 1251 **FEE CALCULATION** Extension for reply within second month 430 2252 215 1. BASIC FILING FEE 2253 490 Extension for reply within third month 980 arge Entity Small Entity 1253 Fee Paid Fee Description 765 Extension for reply within fourth month 1254 1,530 2254 1,040 Extension for reply within fifth month 1255 2,080 2255 Utility filing fee 1001 790 2001 395 1401 340 2401 170 Notice of Appeal 1002 350 2002 175 Design filing fee 340 340 2402 170 Filing a brief in support of an appeal 1402 1003 550 2003 275 Plant filing fee 150 Request for oral hearing 1403 300 2403 1004 790 2004 395 Reissue filing fee 1451 1,510 1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding 1005 160 2005 Provisional filing fee 1452 110 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional 1453 1,330 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE 1501 2501 685 Utility issue fee (or reissue) 1.370 Fee from Extra Claims Fee Paid 1502 below 490 2502 245 Design issue fee **Total Claims** -20** = Х 2503 330 Plant issue fee 1503 660 Independent 1460 130 1460 130 Petitions to the Commissioner Multiple Dependent 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q) 1807 50 1807 Large Entity Small Entity 180 Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt 180 1806 1806 Fee Fee Fee Fee Code (\$) Fee Description 40 Recording each patent assignment per Code (\$) 8021 40 8021 property (times number of properties) Claims in excess of 20 2202 1202 18 395 Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) 1809 790 2809 Independent claims in excess of 3 1201 88 2201 44 1203 300 2203 150 Multiple dependent claim, if not paid 395 For each additional invention to be 1810 790 2810 examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) Reissue independent claims 1204 88 2204 over original patent 790 2801 395 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) 1801 900 Request for expedited examination 1802 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 1802 900 1205 18 2205 of a design application and over original patent Other fee (specify) SUBTOTAL (2) *Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid SUBTOTAL (3) (\$) 340 **or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

Sowen Signature WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)

Kathleen K. Bowen

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Registration No.

42.352

(Complete (if applicable))

Date

Telephone 330-945-6931

10/28/2004

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995	Application Number	09/688,002		
" ? A TEANSMITTAL	Filing Date	10/14/2000		
FORM	First Named Inventor	Palmer		
an person of all correspondence after initial	Art Unit	2881		
	Examiner Name	David A. Vanore		
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	2000007		
	ENCLOSURES (Check all that	t apply)		
Fee Transmittal Form Fee Attached Amendment/Reply After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Express Abandonment Request Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	Drawing(s) Licensing-related Papers Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Addre Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) Remarks ** 3 copies of Appeal Brief	After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): Reply postcard		
Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53				
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT				
Firm Kathleen K. Bowen Co. LPA or				
Individual //o				
Date 10/28/2004				
Date 10/28/2004 L				
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING				
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: 10/28/2004				
Typed or printed Kathleen K. Bowen				
Signature Date 10/28/2004				

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